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<b>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b>	<i>Application Number</i>	09/015,399
	<i>Filing Date</i>	January 29, 1998
	<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Ari HINKKANEN
	<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1644
	<i>Examiner Name</i>	G. Ewoldt
	<i>Attorney Docket No.</i>	2328-111
<b>Title of the Invention: A NEW FUSION PROTEIN AND ITS USE IN AN IMMUNOASSAY FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF AUTOANTIBODIES RELATED TO INSULIN-DEPENDENT DIABETES MELLITUS</b>		

**AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 3, 2003

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being submitted in response to the December 2, 2002 Office Action issued by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the Office Action is due March 2, 2003. Because March 2, 2003 falls on a Sunday, a response filed on the next business day, i.e. Monday, March 3, 2003, is considered timely. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 5 and 18 as shown on the following pages.

Marked-up sheets of the amended claims are attached to this Amendment. Inserted material is underlined and deleted material is enclosed within brackets.